

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/894,660

Examiner

Mylinh Tran

Applicant(s)

CHICKLES ET AL.

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 11-37, 40-50, 52-56 and 58-61 (renumbered claims 1-54).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark S. Williams on 09/16/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 8-10, 38-39, 51 and 57.

1. A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to programs, the method comprising:

displaying a program currently being edited in a first graphical user interface displayed on a computer system, wherein the computer system comprises a display;

displaying a search window on the display;

receiving user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element;

wherein the first graphical user interface comprises a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise at least one palette item that represents one of the plurality of possible program elements; and

wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

11. A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to a program, the method comprising:

displaying on a display of a computer system an edit window of a graphical user interface, wherein the edit window comprises the program;

displaying on the display of the computer system a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to add functionality to the program, and wherein the first palette window comprises a search item;

receiving user input selecting the search item of the first palette window;

displaying a search window on the display of the computer system in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receiving user input in the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette items in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a palette item from the plurality of possible palette items indicated in the search window; and

including the selected palette item in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the palette item.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein the plurality of possible palette items includes palette items from the one or more [[of the]] palette windows in the hierarchy comprising palette items.

32. A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display on the display a program currently being edited in a graphical user interface;

display a search window on the display;

receive user input to the search window specifying a one or more search criteria;

identify and display information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

include the selected program element in the program in response to the user input to the search window selecting the program element;

wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

display one or more palette windows of a hierarchy of palette windows;

wherein the one or more palette windows in the hierarchy each comprises one or more palette items that represent one of the plurality of possible program elements; and

wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, and wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

40. A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display in a graphical user interface on the display a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to add functionality to a program; and wherein the first palette window comprises a search item;

receive user input selecting the search item of the first palette window;

display a search window in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receive user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identify and display information indicating a plurality of possible palette items in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input to the search window selecting a palette item from the plurality of possible palette items indicated in the search window; and
include the selected palette item in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the palette item.

44. A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display in a graphical user interface on the display a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to include functionality in a program;

receive user input selecting a search item of the first palette window;

display a search window on the display in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receive user input to the search window specifying a one or more search criteria;

identify and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input selecting a second palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows; and

display the second palette window on the display in response to said user input selecting the second palette window.

49. A memory [carrier] medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:

displaying a program in a graphical user interface on a display of a computer system;

displaying a search window on the display of the computer system;

receiving user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria, wherein the plurality of possible program elements are selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element;

wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

displaying a first palette window of a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy each comprises one or more palette items that represent one of the plurality of possible program elements; and

wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

Claims 50, 52, 53 and 54, line 1, replace “carrier” by “memory”.

55. A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to a program, the method comprising:

displaying the program in a graphical user interface on a display of a computer system;

displaying a search field on the display, wherein the search field is operable to receive user input;

receiving user input to the search field specifying one or more search criteria;

determining one or more program elements in correspondence with the one or more search criteria;

displaying information indicating the one or more program elements in correspondence with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element of the one or more program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element;

displaying a first palette window of a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy each comprises one or more palette items that represent one of the one or more program elements; and

wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

Claim 58, line 1, replace "claim 57" by "claim 55".

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 1, 11, 20, 32, 40, 44, 49, 52, 54 and 55, when considered as a whole, are allowable over the prior art of record. Specifically, prior art of record fails to teach the system and method for "adding program

elements to programs". The method and system for receiving user input to a search window selecting a program element from plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window and including the selecting program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element are well known in the art as taught by Fowlow et al. [US. 6,189,138]. However, the reference does not teach or suggest the concept of "displaying in the graphical user interface a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to include functionality in a program currently being edited in the graphical user interface".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mylinh Tran. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4141.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo, can be reached at 571-272-4847.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mylinh Tran

Art Unit 2179

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PRIMARY EXAMINER

